

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-23 (canceled)

24. (Previously presented) A washing and drying machine, comprising:
a water tank;
a rotary drum rotatably supported in said water tank;
a door provided to open/close an opening of said rotary drum; and
an irradiating unit fixed to said door for emitting a light beam including ultra-violet ray into said rotary drum,
wherein said irradiating unit comprises
a light source emitting said light beam into said rotary drum,
a reflector reflecting light emitted from said light source in a direction from the opening of said rotary drum towards a bottom wall of said rotary drum, and
a light-transmitting member provided to be located between said light source and said rotary drum in a closed state of said door, protecting said light source from heat and water in said rotary drum,
wherein said door is formed containing an ultra-violet ray absorber, allowing a view of the inside of said rotary drum from outside via said door in a closed state, and
wherein clothes can be put into and taken out from said rotary drum through said opening, in an opened state of said door.

25. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 24, wherein the ultra-violet ray emitted from said light source has a wavelength of at least 280 nm.

26. (Previously presented) A washing and drying machine comprising:
a water tank;
a rotary drum rotatably supported in said water tank,
irradiating means for irradiating a light beam including ultra-violet ray into said rotary drum; and

control means for controlling said irradiating means such that a light beam including ultra-violet ray is emitted in said rotary drum after the end of a drying process,

wherein said control means controls said irradiating means such that an irradiating step of emitting the light beam including ultra-violet ray into said rotary drum is performed under a state where temperature in said rotary drum is maintained at least 30°C and at most 60°C after cooling down subsequent to the end of the drying process.

27. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 26, wherein said control means control said irradiating means such that only an irradiating step of emitting the light beam including ultra-violet ray into said rotary drum can be performed.

28. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 26, wherein said control means controls a door provided to open/close an opening of said rotary drum such that the door is locked when an irradiating step of emitting the light beam including ultra-violet ray into said rotary drum is performed.

29. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 26, wherein a component contains an ultra-violet ray absorber, and is formed to shut off ultra-violet ray.

30. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 26, wherein

said irradiating means is provided on a door provided to open/close an opening of said rotary drum.

31. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 26, wherein

said irradiating means is provided on said water tank such that the light beam including ultra-violet ray is emitted to an outer circumferential surface of said rotary drum, and a plurality

of through holes penetrating to the inside of said rotary drum are formed in said outer circumferential surface of said rotary drum.

32. (Previously presented) A washing and drying machine, comprising:

a washing tank accommodating clothes;

irradiating means for emitting a light beam not including ultra-violet ray into said washing tank;

drying means for feeding hot air to said washing tank; and

control means for controlling said irradiating means such that a light beam is emitted into said washing tank after the end of a drying process by said drying means,

wherein said drying process is followed by a cool-down process in which the air in said washing tank is circulated and the temperature in said washing tank is decreased, and

wherein said control means controls said irradiating means such that a step of emitting the light beam into said washing tank is started under a state where temperature in said washing tank is at least 40 °C and lower than 70 °C after said cool-down process, or a state where temperature in said washing tank is at least 40 °C and lower than 70 °C during said cool-down process.

33. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 32, wherein

said irradiating means includes

a light source emitting a light beam having a wavelength of at least 400 nm.

34. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 33, wherein

said light source is a halogen lamp.

35. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 32, wherein

said irradiating means includes
a light source; and
ultra-violet ray shutting means for shutting off the ultra-violet ray.

36. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 35,
wherein

said light source is a halogen lamp.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 32,
wherein

said control means control said irradiating means such that
clothes in said washing tank is irradiated after the clothes in said washing tank are dried
by said drying means.

39. (Previously presented) The washing and drying machine according to claim 32,
further comprising

door lock means for locking closed a door provided at an inlet for inputting clothes into
said washing tank; wherein

said control means activates said door lock means while the light beam is emitted by said
irradiating means.